REMARKS

Claims 3, 5, 7 and 11-21 are pending in this application. Claims 3 and 5 are amended herewith. Claims 2, 6, 8-10, and 22-29 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for these amendments can be found on at least pages 7-25. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

None of Applicant's amendments herein shall be construed as dedicating any unclaimed, amended or cancelled subject matter to the public, and Applicant reserves the right to pursue such subject matter in this case or any related case.

Claims 2, 3, and 5, and 11-21 stand rejected under 34 U.S.C § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests withdrawal of the same.

Applicant is grateful for the courtesies that the Examiner extended to his attorneys on January 24, 2003, wherein the Examiner proposed several amendments that would most likely place the claims in condition for allowance. In the telephone interview, the Examiner recommended amending Claims 3 and 5 to incorporate the limitations of Claim 2 and to include the language "consisting essentially of" before SEQ ID NO:6. Claim 2 has been cancelled and Claims 3 and 5 have been amended as recommended by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 3 and 5 are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner also indicated that Claim 7 appears to be in condition for allowance. Applicant notes that presently no rejection stands against Claim 7.

Claims 11-21 depend directly or indirectly from independent Claim 3. When the recitations of Claims 11-21 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 3,

Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 11-21 are therefore are likewise in condition for allowance.

For the convenience of the Examiner, Applicant has provided the claims that will be pending upon entry of the present amendment:

3. (Twice Amended) A composition comprising an isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence consisting essentially of SEQ ID NO: 6, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated with at least one binding agent selected from the group consisting of a monoclonal antibody, single chain antibody, phage-display evolved antibody, and in-vitro evolved antibody.

5. (Twice Amended) A composition for treating prostate cancer, comprising an isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence consisting essentially of SEQ ID NO: 6, conjugated with a binding agent capable of inhibiting binding of the polypeptide to its receptor, thereby inhibiting an ability of the polypeptide to induce prostate cancer cell growth, the binding agent selected from the group consisting of monoclonal antibody, partially or fully humanized monoclonal antibody, polyclonal antibody, antibody selected by phage display selection, single chain antibody, and in-vitro evolved antibody.

7. An isolated polypeptide encoded by the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.

11. The composition of Claim 3, wherein the at least one binding agent is conjugated with a reporter enzyme.

12. The composition of Claim 11, wherein the reporter enzyme is selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphates and horseradish peroxidase.

13. The composition of Claim 3, wherein the at least one binding agent is tagged to a fluorophore.

14. The composition of Claim 3, wherein the at least one binding agent is tagged to a chemiluminescent compound or a radionuclide.

15. The composition of Claim 14, wherein the chemiluminescent compound comprises luciferase or green-fluorescent protein.

16. The composition of Claim 3, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated with at least two binding agents selected from the group consisting of monoclonal antibodies, single chain antibodies, phage-display evolved antibodies, and in-vitro evolved antibodies, the at least two binding agents bound to different epitopes of the peptide such that binding of the first binding agent does not compromise binding of the second binding agent.

17. The composition of Claim 16, wherein at least one of the at least two binding agents is conjugated with a reporter enzyme.

18. The composition of Claim 17, wherein the reporter enzyme is selected from the group consisting of alkaline phosphates and horseradish peroxidase.

19. The composition of Claim 16, wherein at least one of the at least two binding agents is tagged to a fluorophore.

20. The composition of Claim 16, wherein at least one of the at least two binding agents is tagged to a chemiluminescent compound or a radionuclide.

21. The composition of Claim 20, wherein the chemiluminescent compound comprises luciferase or green-fluorescent protein.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the claims are now in a condition for allowance, and requests early notification to that effect. Should the Examiner have any questions, please call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 3 and 5 have been amended as follows:

3. (Twice Amended) A composition comprising [the] an isolated polypeptide [of Claim 2] comprising an amino acid sequence consisting essentially of SEQ ID NO: 6, wherein the polypeptide is conjugated with at least one binding agent selected from the group consisting of a monoclonal antibody, single chain antibody, phage-display evolved antibody, and in-vitro evolved antibody.

5. (Twice Amended) A composition for treating prostate cancer, comprising [the] an isolated polypeptide [of Claim 2] comprising an amino acid sequence consisting essentially of SEQ ID NO: 6, conjugated with a binding agent capable of inhibiting binding of the polypeptide to its receptor, thereby inhibiting an ability of the polypeptide to induce prostate cancer cell growth, the binding agent selected from the group consisting of monoclonal antibody, partially or fully humanized monoclonal antibody, polyclonal antibody, antibody selected by phage display selection, single chain antibody, and in-vitro evolved antibody.